and (b) Minister of State in this Ministry and Home Minister had discussions with the leaders of Opposition parties on 29th September and 1st October, 1987 respectively in which various aspects of Sati incident including the need for legislation were discussed. Proposal to bring about Central Legislation is now under consideration. A meeting of the parliamentary political parties will be held by the Home Minister to discuss the legislative measures.

Trouble in Panda Terai village in Bilaspur District, MP.

371. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: "Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on 24th October, 1987, trouble erupted in Panda Terai village of Bilaspur district in Madhya Pradesh while Harijans were trying to enter the Durga temple;

(b) if so. what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are "aware that in March, 1987 people of upper castes had given a call for total boycott of Harijans and for their entr into temples; and

(d) if so, what steps were taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Ca) to (d) The requisite inofrmafion is being obtained from tha Government of Madhya Pradesh and it will be laid on the Table of the Sabha on receipt.

Import of edible oils from the United States

372. SHRI CHATURANAN MISH RA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are importing edible oils from the United States;

(b) if so, what quantum of edible oils was imported during the year* 1985, 1986 and so far during 1987;

(c) whether the contract has been signed in this regard under P-L. 480;

(d) whether the United States has offered concessional credit for the import of edible oils; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R, DAS MUNSHI). (a) to (e) Under a Memorandum of Agreement signed on November 13, 1978 between National Dairy Development Board and the Cooperative League of the USA, relating to supply of PL 480 Title II commodities, 160,000 Tonnes of Vegetable Oils were to be supplied for a project for the development of an integrated Oilseed and Vegetable Oil Cooperative Production and Marketing System over a period of 8 years. The position regarding the supply of the commodity is as under:

Financial Year	Quantity (MT)
1985-»6	Nil
1986-87	21,127
1987-88 so f-.r	Nil

US Department of Agriculture has also indicated its willingness to notify India in its Export Enhancement Programme (EEP) which would enable India to purchase upto 300,000 metric tonnes of edible oils from US. The Government has not received any other specific offer of assistance from, the US.

दिल्ली पुलिस के जवानों को भोजन-भत्ता

373. **श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक :** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि संघ राज्य क्षेत्र दिल्ली में सभी